



# Reporter

Presented by:  
Milwaukee County EMS Council  
Public Information Committee

March, 2010  
Volume 3, Issue 1

## e-PCR's Making a Difference in Milwaukee County

### Highlights:

#### Page 2

EMS Provider Spotlight:

Greendale Fire Department

Greenfield Fire Department

#### Page 3

MFD News

FMLH/MCW Paramedic

Education Opportunities

Signing of Resolution to

extend Paramedic Services

#### Page 4

Kudos – West Allis Fire

EMS Provider Spotlight

Greenfield Fire Department



Milwaukee County EMS Council  
Public Information Committee

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Council- Public Information Committee is to effectively provide accurate information to the stakeholders, elected officials and the general public relative to the contributions of the Milwaukee County EMS System. The committee will accomplish this through education, community outreach and media relations.



If you live in Milwaukee, Wauwatosa or West Allis, and you dial 911, emergency personnel will be dispatched to where you are, and in the course of your care, your vital information will be recorded on an ePCR (electronic patient care record). An e-PCR is a valuable tool which is being used to record pertinent information on the patient, i.e. medications, name, address, medical history, insurance, vital signs, etc., in real-time at the patient's side. This information is retrievable, and in the event a 911 call is made to this person in the future, the technology is such that the screens will be repopulated with the vital information previously collected. This feature gives insight into the patient's history and help both paramedics and the physicians at the receiving hospital as reported in the following letter from William Kumprey, MD at The Wisconsin Heart Hospital.

***"I am writing to commend Med 100 on a job well done. They brought a patient to The Wisconsin Heart Hospital***

***emergency department on January, 2010. The patient was found in extremis, unable to talk (i.e. - give any history) due to severe respiratory distress. The West Allis Fire Department had previous contact with this patient, and through the use of the ePCR, they were able to pull up vital past medical history, medications and allergies. After they called our ED, we were able to access the information as well on lifequest.emsbridge.com. (an Internet access portal to access EMS records of patients an EMS unit is transporting to them or has transported to their facility) As a result, we too knew vital history on a critically ill patient. This allowed us to prepare accordingly for a critically ill patient before arrival.***

***As the emergency physician, I greeted the crew on arrival with both nurses, an x-ray technician, respiratory therapy and pharmacy. The crew did a wonderful job recognizing the critical nature of this patient and correctly expedited care to the closest hospital, with minimal delay in the field. The patient received several high doses nitroglycerin spray treatments for hypertensive crisis and pulmonary edema en route.***

***On arrival, the patient also received (...care described....). The rapidity of treatment was crucial in this patient's subsequent improvement in the emergency department. A patient that could have easily been delayed and likely intubated in the field (or shortly after arrival) instead turned the corner in our department. With the aforementioned stat therapy, we were able to avoid intubating this patient, significantly decreasing his morbidity and mortality. The patient has already been weaned off BiPAP, is receiving treatments, and working on ambulating prior to discharge planning. Kudos to a job well done by Med 100. The EMT-Paramedic trio of Jay Scharfenberg, Mallory Stigiltz and Michael Wright did an outstanding job and deserve some recognition."***

The use of ePCRs will continue to expand in the Milwaukee County EMS system. EMS providers in both the municipal fire departments and the private ambulance companies have embraced this cutting edge technology that expedites life-saving care for our citizens.

### **EMS Council Meeting**

March 24, 2010

April 28, 2010

May 26, 2010

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Place:

FMLH Conference Ctr.

8700 Watertown Plank Rd.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **51<sup>st</sup> Paramedic Class Commencement Exercise**

April 14, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Froedtert Memorial Lutheran  
Hospital – Helfaer Auditorium  
9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue

\*\*\*\*\*

### **National EMS Week 2010**

May 16 – 22

Plan early and submit your  
plans for publication to:

[Janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com](mailto:Janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com)  
for the May REPORTER

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MSOE Health & Wellness**

**Fair** sponsored by MSOE  
Health Services and School  
of Nursing

April 22, 2010

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1025 N. Broadway

Open to the Community

\*\*\*\*\*



## **EMS Providers In The Spotlight**



### **Greendale Fire Department**

In May of 1938, the new residents began moving into the community with its' 572 urban housing units, business center, school, utilities, paved streets, parks and playgrounds. During late August of 1938, Greendale's need for adequate fire protection became apparent.

As population and housing grew in the Village, the need for on duty personnel became necessary. In May of 1965, the first three full-time firefighters were appointed to the department. The first firefighters worked a nine-hour day, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The full-time firefighters were hired primarily to supplement the volunteer force whose members found it difficult to offer their time in the afternoon and early evening hours. On January 1, 1968, the department went to 24-hour shifts with firefighters working a 72-hour week schedule.

In 1971 the department increased full-time staffing to 19 firefighters with three platoons working 24-hour shifts and a 56-hour per week work schedule. The department also utilized paid-on-call firefighters to supplement the full-time firefighters.

Today, the staffing remains the same as 1971 but the demands and expectations are much greater. The population of Greendale has grown to approximately 14,000 residents, but we also have the largest shopping Center in Wisconsin, Southridge, within its borders. This increases its daily population greatly during the daytime hours.

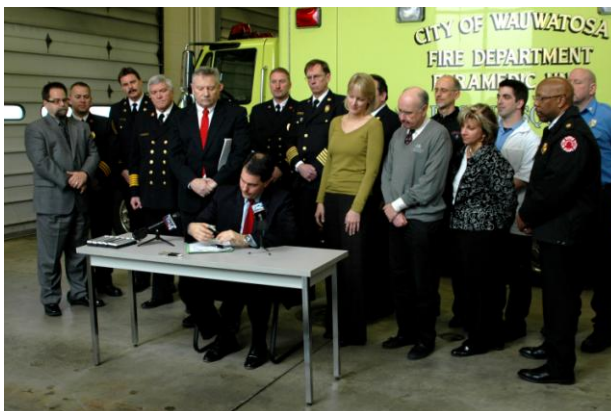
In 1971 the Greendale Fire Department answered 602 calls for service and in 2009 we answered 1701 calls for service. Of the 1701 calls in 2009, over 80% of the calls were medical. All 19 fulltime and 4 paid-on-call members are EMT-D certified. All fulltime personnel cross-staff the department's ladder truck and two engines. In 2010 the Greendale Fire Department is in the process of exploring the possibilities of increasing their level of service to the Paramedic Level.

Go to Page 4 for Greenfield Fire Department Spotlight

\*\*\*\*\*

### **EMS Providers Spotlighted In the May Reporter**

Hales Corners Fire Dept.  
Meda-Care Ambulance



County Executive Scott Walker signed a resolution on January 26, 2010 extending the agreement between the County of Milwaukee and eight paramedic host communities for paramedic services. Representatives of the municipalities including Mayors and Fire Chiefs worked with representatives from Milwaukee County to create an agreement that will assist both parties in their joint efforts to continue the high quality EMS system that has been established in the county for the past 37 years. The agreement runs through 2013.

## Contact Us

### Milwaukee County Emergency Medical Services

1220 W. Vliet Street  
Suite 304  
Milwaukee WI 53205

PHONE:  
(414) 289-6540

FAX:  
(414) 289-8528

E-MAIL:  
[janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com](mailto:janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com)

### Public Information Committee

Supv. Mark Borkowski  
Chairman – EMS Council

Bat. Chief Jon Cohn  
Greenfield Fire Dept.  
[jonc@greenfieldwi.us](mailto:jonc@greenfieldwi.us)

Jimmy Ellis  
Columbia St. Mary's Hospital  
[jellis@columbia-stmarys.org](mailto:jellis@columbia-stmarys.org)

Pat Haines  
Froedtert Hospital  
[phaines@fmlh.edu](mailto:phaines@fmlh.edu)

Jason Liu, M.D.  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
[jmliu@mcw.edu](mailto:jmliu@mcw.edu)

Mary Spencer  
Milwaukee School of Engineering  
[spencer@msoe.edu](mailto:spencer@msoe.edu)

Ken Sternig  
Milwaukee County EMS  
[kenneth.sternig@milwcnty.com](mailto:kenneth.sternig@milwcnty.com)

Linda Wiedmann  
Meda-Care Ambulance  
[linda@meda-care.com](mailto:linda@meda-care.com)



## MFD News

### MFD Firefighter Commencement

On February 4, 2010 MFD graduated 49 out of 50 new recruits who all became official firefighters. This is the highest graduation rate in MFD's history. The 49 newly graduated firefighters will be placed in their respective firehouses throughout the City starting Sunday, February 7. The MFD has not held a recruitment class and/or graduation since 2007.

### MFD on Twitter

Please follow the Milwaukee Fire Department on Twitter for updates on the department's activities and incidents. The MFD's twitter page is <http://www.twitter.com/milfiredept>. We have created another avenue to keep you informed on the latest news in the department.

### MFD Firefighters Demonstrate Cooking Skills at the Milwaukee Market

Titled "Firehouse Favorites", local firefighters sporting recipes for Chicken Squares, Salmon Sausage on Biscuits with Gravy, Muffaletta Sandwiches, and Cowboy Beanstaught taught a cooking class at the Milwaukee Market on December 3, 2009.

"Many firefighters' favorite pastime is cooking," said Lt. Joshua Parish, director of community relations for the Milwaukee Fire Department. "Those participating in the cooking class at the Market on December 3 were happy to share their passion and pass on their favorite recipes to attendees."

"It's an honor to have members of the Milwaukee

Fire Department here to demonstrate their cooking creations," said Milwaukee Public Market culinary director, Jill Nickerson. "These firefighters are skilled cooks who often concoct elaborate meals for large groups in the firehouses they represent."

A portion of the proceeds were donated to the Milwaukee chapter of the Sisters Network, an organization recommended by the firefighters and committed to increasing local and national attention to the devastating impact that breast cancer has in the African American community. The founder of the Milwaukee chapter is Phyllis Holder, a registered nurse and breast cancer survivor.



## Paramedic Education Opportunities

### Spinal Cord Injury Preceptorship

May 19, June 16, July 21, September 15, October 20, November 17  
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FMLH – West Clinics Building  
9200 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Register by calling 414-805-3666 or 800-272-3666 – class size is limited to 6 participants per session. There is no cost for this program.

Dr. Shekar Kurpad, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery and Director of the Spinal Cord Injury program at Froedtert Hospital and the Medical College of Wisconsin, is interested in educating the EMS on the Principles of SCI management, as well as stabilization and research. If interested in having him attend one of your department meetings, please contact Patty Haines, Physician Liaison at 262-650-1128 or [phaines@fmlh.edu](mailto:phaines@fmlh.edu)

Look for us on the Web:  
[www.Milwaukee.gov/ems](http://www.Milwaukee.gov/ems)







## **KUDOS**

### **West Allis Fire Department Paramedics**

On December 18, 2009 – Assistant Chief Steve Bane received the following letter from a grateful West Allis Citizen

“On Sunday, December 13, 2009, in the early morning hours, I experienced upper chest pain. I walked to the bathroom and when I walked back to the bedroom I collapsed on the floor. I was able to get back to bed and my wife called 911. Soon after the call was made, the West Allis Paramedics were at my home and monitoring my problem. The Paramedics that responded, Mike Gunderson, Scott Baumgardt, Greg Lenske, Mallory Stiglitz and Brandon Foley immediately made my wife and I feel we were in good hands as they were taking care of me. I want to thank them for the care and concern they gave for my well being – as well as my wife during this stressful time.

They recommended that I be checked out at the nearest Hospital – options being West Allis Memorial, and Wisconsin Heart Hospital. I ended up at Wisconsin Heart Hospital and that proved to be a “God Send”. I was taken care of as soon as I arrived and continued to get good care through the early morning and the rest of my stay.

I remember way back when the Paramedics were organized in the City of West Allis. I believe they were the second unit in the Country (after Seattle, Washington) to be organized. As the years have gone by, much advancement has been made in care giving and I am grateful and thankful to the West Allis Paramedics for being there in my time of need. A Forever Grateful West Allis Citizen”

### **Greenfield Fire Department**



Greenfield Fire Department was organized in 1958. A full-time fire chief, seven full-time firefighters, and 25 paid on-call members were hired in 1960. A new firehouse was built in 1968 on 53<sup>rd</sup> and Layton at a cost of \$215,000. A second firehouse was built in 1981 to cover the west side of the city due to increases in population and business growth.

In 1987, Greenfield Fire Department started paramedic service by sending 12 firefighters to paramedic school. The fire department roster grew to 48 personnel along with 2 paid on-call positions. Run volume was 1,990.

In 2009, our run volume has grown to nearly 4,400 calls for service with 51 personnel on the roster. The Greenfield Fire Department protects 13.5 square miles which includes a portion of the interstate freeway system and the many inherent dangers that come with protecting this system.

Greenfield Fire Department provides fire education annually to over 2,000 grade school children and visits hundreds of senior citizens each year to discuss fire evacuation and safety. The fire department provides other services such as: infant car seat installation, Juvenile Fire Setters Program, code enforcement, and internship programs for college and high school students pursuing fire careers. Fire prevention/education information can be found at the Greenfield Now's website ([www.greenfieldnow.com](http://www.greenfieldnow.com)).

Last year, the fire department purchased a 100' Pierce ladder truck. This year we have purchased two engines and will take delivery later this year. The department also implemented the rank of Battalion Chief to its organizational structure/command staff in 2010.

Greenfield Fire Department was proud to host the Firefighter Combat Challenge in 2007 and 2008. Our event drew more competitors nationwide than any other regional event held in the country. The Greenfield Fire Department is very active in its fundraising campaign for MDA. Last year we raised a record amount of \$23,848 bringing our twelve year total to \$117,804 that has been donated to MDA.

The Greenfield Fire Department is proud to assist those that call upon us for fire, medical, and prevention services. Our organization looks forward to continuing to be actively involved and cooperative in shaping the future of Milwaukee County Emergency Medical and Fire services thus ensuring the best and safest possible delivery of service to our stakeholders and our members.

The next issue of the REPORTER will be distributed in May, 2010.  
Anyone having content for this issue is encouraged to submit the same to Janis Spitzer @  
[janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com](mailto:janis.spitzer@milwcnty.com) no later than April 30, 2010.